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Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Report of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

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I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects" and to allocate it to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

2. The Fourth Committee considered the item at its 12th to 15th meetings, on 18, 21, 22 and 24 October 2002 (see A/C.4/57/SR.12-15).

3. At the 12th meeting, on 18 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations made a statement (see A/C.4/57/SR.12), after which the Committee moved into closed session to hold an interactive dialogue with the Under-Secretary-General.

4. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations made a further statement (see A/C.4/57/SR.15).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.4/57/L.8•

5. At the 15th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Ukraine, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, China, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Denmark, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Haiti, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the

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Russian Federation, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled "International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers" (A/C.4/57/L.8).

6. At the same meeting, the Chairman informed the Committee that no programme budget implications would be entailed by the adoption of the draft resolution.

7. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.4/57/L.8 without a vote (see para. 9).

8. The Committee will continue its consideration of this item in the latter part of the fifty-seventh session.

III. Recommendation of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)

9. The Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming that peacekeeping continues to be among the key instruments available to the United Nations in discharging its responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Recognizing the invaluable contribution to the promotion of peace and security of all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and recalling in this regard the awarding of the 1988 Nobel Peace Prize to United Nations peacekeeping forces,

Recognizing also the sacrifice of all the men and women who lost their lives in United Nations peacekeeping operations, and recalling in this regard the establishment by the Security Council of the Dag Hammarskjöld Medal,

Bearing in mind that the Security Council, by its resolution 50 (1948) of 29 May 1948, authorized the establishment of the first United Nations peacekeeping operation, and recognizing that 2003 marks the fifty-fifth anniversary of United Nations peacekeeping,

Recalling its resolution 56/225 B of 22 May 2002, in which, inter alia, it endorsed the proposals, recommendations and conclusions contained in the report of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,[1] including its recommendation that 29 May be designated the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers,

1. *Decides* to designate 29 May as the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers, to be observed annually to pay tribute to all the men and women who have served and continue to serve in United Nations peacekeeping operations for

[1] A/56/863.

their high level of professionalism, dedication and courage, and to honour the memory of those who have lost their lives in the cause of peace;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system, non-governmental organizations and individuals to observe the International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers in an appropriate manner;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system.